

By following these tips, you will reduce your chances of being the victim of a vehicle theft or vehicle break-in.

- **ALWAYS TAKE YOUR KEYS**  
Never leave them in the car. Nearly 20% of all vehicles taken had the keys in them. Hiding a second set of keys in your vehicle is not recommended as extra keys can easily be found if a thief takes the time.
- **ALWAYS LOCK YOUR VEHICLE**  
Approximately 50% of all vehicles taken were left unlocked.
- **PARK IN WELL-LIGHTED AREAS**  
Over half of all vehicle thefts occur at night.
- **NEVER LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE RUNNING UNATTENDED**  
Why make it even easier for thieves? Even if you will only be gone for a minute, vehicle thefts can happen very quickly. This is especially true during cold mornings when many owners leave the vehicle unattended to warm up. Also, it is against the law to leave your motor vehicle running with the key in it in Wisconsin.
- **DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLES IN PLAIN VIEW**  
Hide them under the seats, lock them in the glove box or trunk, or cover them with something. Leaving valuables in plain view will attract thieves and make your vehicle more desirable.
- **PARK IN A GARAGE**  
If you have a garage, use it. Vehicles parked outside or on the street are more vulnerable. When parking in your garage, lock the garage door and your vehicle. By locking both, you will greatly improve your chances of deterring a thieves.
- **NEVER LEAVE THE TITLE REGISTRATION IN THE VEHICLE**  
Thieves can and will use it to sell your stolen vehicle.
- **REGISTER YOUR VEHICLE IN THE CATCH AUTO THIEVES (CAT) PROGRAM WITH THE MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
If you do not drive your vehicle between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 a.m., you may elect to register your vehicle for participation in this program. Once registered, you will be provided with a window sticker identifying your vehicle as a participating vehicle. Any officer observing your vehicle operating on the roadway between the specified hours is then authorized to stop it without further probable cause. You may register your vehicle at the monthly Captain's Community Networking Meeting, held at 6 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month at District Three headquarters, located at 2333 N 49th St. If you are unable to register at the meeting, you may contact P.O. Lemmie (935-7238), P.O. Kong (935-7733), or Community Service Division (935-7905) for additional information regarding.

Source: Auto-Theft.info, The Online Auto-Theft Information Clearinghouse

## Vehicle Theft Statistics

### Some of the Vehicles Taken In District Three

(Not in any particular order)

1. Dodge Caravan
2. Plymouth Voyager
3. Dodge Intrepid
4. Honda Accord
5. Buick Century

According to FBI Reports, a motor vehicle is stolen in the United States every 26.4 seconds.\*

In 2006, only 12.6 percent of vehicle thefts were cleared by arrests.\*

Carjackings occur most frequently in urban areas, accounting for only 3.0 percent of all motor vehicle theft.\*

In 2007, a survey found that 4 out of 5 Americans always locked their vehicles and 9 out of 10 never leave a spare key in their vehicle. However, 1 in 3 did admit to leaving their vehicle running.\*\*

\*As reported by the Insurance Information Institute for 2006  
\*\*According to a National Insurance Crime Bureau and LoJack Survey